

From the Grass Roots Up:

Celebrating A Decade (1985 - 1995) of Citizens' Activism

To Prevent Toxic Chemical Pollution

And Protect Public Health



Grass Roots Environmental Organization, Inc.

GREO

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pictured (left to right): Sandy Carson, Ann Parker, Joanne Eash, Bob Spiegel, Fran Cagnassola, Bob Carson, Peter Buroff, Kerri Blanchard. Taken in January 1994.

Star Ledger's 1982

50 protest E. Brunswick waste facility

Madelyn Hoffman of Newark, a spokeswoman for SMOKE, said "Wheelabrator Frye is a good target for all of us," noting that the firm was being considered by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and by Essex County officials to build another incinerator in the Newark area.

The Home NEWS 4/21/84 Citizens charge DEP stalling toxic cleanup

"The DEP is supposed to be protecting us and our environment," said Susan Andrews of Logan Township and a member of the coalition New Jersey Grass Roots Environmental Organization.

"Instead they are not spending money they have available to clean up existing hazardous waste sites and they insist on putting more sites on the Superfund list so they don't have to spend any money to clean them up," she said.

"People across the country and New Jersey are saying that toxic waste is the most important issue in their lives," said Madelyn Hoffman of Newark's Ironbound section, where dioxin from a former herbicide factory has spread to a number of sites. "And they would like to see this cleanup done immediately."

Morris activist helps lead fight against trash incinerator facility

Hoffman and Hilbert, also a SMOKE member, agree that recycling can offer some relief, if not a solution to solid waste disposal problems.

"Realistically, we are going to have to depend on landfills in the short term, but if there is a good move towards recycling, we can reduce what we put into the landfills a great deal," said Hilbert.

If mandatory recycling is implemented, said Hoffman, more control of solid waste separation would be possible and "incineration and landfilling could be handled in a totally different way."

"The problem now is taking everything and burning it or dumping it together. If a serious attempt at recycling is made, you could know what to expect from burning or dumping a certain substance. Right now we just don't know," she said.

If efforts to keep a resource recovery plant out of Rockaway Township, or any other location in the county, are not successful, said Hilbert, "what happened in the landfill fight will happen again. Large amounts of people will be coming out in protest."

THE STAR-LEDGER, Monday, January 20, 1986

Middlesex waste incineration foes urge recycling as the safer course

Linden Ledger's 1983

Citizens group to hear talk on burning waste

LINDEN—The Concerned Citizens of Linden will hear Madelyn Hoffman, the statewide coordinator of SMOKE, the statewide movement opposed to killing environments, at its next meeting on Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Reformed Church on Wood Avenue.

Hoffman will describe SMOKE and its activities in opposing incineration as a solution to New Jersey's solid waste crisis because of the hazards of burning garbage. Alternatives to mass burning and results of contacts made with people in other parts of the country in handling the problem will be discussed.

A question and answer period will follow.

Sophie Kauchak, club president, urged the public to attend, noting that since "a garbage incineration plant is planned in our immediate environment in Rahway, Miss Hoffman's views will be of vital interest."

300 residents take part in protest against trash-to-energy plant plan

GROUP WANTS TOUGHER GARBAGE-BURNING LAWS

1982 8 Home News Trenton

'Gift' of clean air sought by anti-burning activists

Star Ledger's 1982

Trash burner for Newark spurs debate

"There has to be some buffer zone" between plants and densely populated areas, said Madelyn Hoffman, SMOKE's statewide coordinator. In Europe, however, many plants have been built right next to residential areas.

"Will the short-term solution of mass burning, as it's being pursued, end up fouling the air we breathe and destroying lives?" Hoffman asked. "Mass burning, misnamed resource recovery...has been presented to you as a high-technology cure-all for garbage problems. But the record of these incinerators and their technology is shaky at best. It's the same old story: a technology that seems so appealing is really untested."

Lawmaker blames Jersey pollution for cancer, asthma in Staten Island

By ANTONY F. SHANNON.

A New York congressman charges that Staten Island residents suffer from a "disproportionately high" rate of respiratory cancer, a high incidence of asthma and "other serious respiratory illnesses," principally because of their "downwind" proximity to New Jersey's large petrochemical industry.

In a lengthy report to be issued tomorrow in Washington, Rep. Guy V. Molinari, a Republican whose district covers Staten Island, said 156 counties in 27 states that "lie under the nation's three major wind systems" were examined for respiratory cancer death rates, the existence of petrochemical industries, and "downwind and upwind" relationships.

Sunday, November 30, 1986

Activism in North Jersey on the rise

Residents from all over the area are yelling, signing petitions, writing letters, attending lengthy town meetings, carrying signs and in some cases, threatening to block roads in a wave of community activism spurred by the area's new growth. People are speaking and shaking fists with a determined vengeance to either keep their quiet havens peaceful and unpopulated or just safe from chemicals.

The grass roots environmental movement in New Jersey is celebrating more than 10 years of struggle for a cleaner environment. As communities across the state began to organize to fight back against corporate polluters and their allies in state government, we realized that the possibility existed for us to be pitted against each other; north vs. south, urban vs. suburban, suburban vs. rural. Activists began talking to each other, showing up at each other's rallies, pickets and educational forums. A basis for united action emerged through this process. Groups had an opportunity to present a common front and determine that New Jersey is My BackYard.

--Matt Krautheim, GREO Co-Chair

GREO History and Highlights

The Grass Roots Environmental Organization, Inc. (GREO) officially arrived in New Jersey in 1983, when we received our incorporation papers. GREO hired its first paid staff person in October 1985 following the successful receipt of its first grant. The October 20, 1996 is a celebration of that decade of the grass roots environmental movement in New Jersey. However, no history of GREO would be complete without first describing how it began, how it grew out of the concerns of residents of the Ironbound section of Newark, a community literally assaulted with toxic chemical pollution, which in 1979 decided that they needed to organize to deal with these assaults.

THE IRONBOUND COMMITTEE AGAINST TOXIC WASTES IS FORMED:

January 1979: Magazine Street fire at chemical plant unleashes a large cloud of toxic smoke over the Ironbound section of Newark

April 22, 1979: Huge fire and explosion at Chemical Control in Elizabeth results in release of toxins to the air and water. The Coalition for a United Elizabeth (CUE) responds to the tragedy.

June 1979: Ironbound learns of proposal to construct facility for At-Sea Incineration at Port Newark. This would require a tank farm on land where the most toxic chemicals known would be processed, loaded on an incinerator ship which would navigate the channel and burn the wastes at sea.

November 1979: Ironbound warehouse containing 300 barrels of illegally stored toxic, flammable, explosive chemicals discovered near Routes 1 & 9 sparks concern that toxic waste could be scattered throughout Newark.

February 1980: The Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes forms to protect Ironbound against new sources of toxic chemical pollution and to address existing toxic chemical pollution problems.

November 1980 - 1983: Ironbound opposes SCA's proposal to construct a hazardous waste incinerator, less than 500 feet away from people's homes.

1983: An announcement is made that the highest levels of dioxin contamination found anywhere in the country are on Diamond Shamrock's property in Newark.

EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE STATEWIDE BEGIN:

October 12, 1982: More than 50 demonstrators staged a protest to oppose construction of a garbage incinerator adjacent to the Edgeboro Landfill in East Brunswick. This landfill sits atop a major aquifer. SMOKE joined with IRATE, CAUSE, and SCOPE to oppose this plan.

November 1982: Lois Gibbs is invited by the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes to speak about her fight at Love Canal. Madelyn reaches out to groups around the state, by using existing directories, and contacting people mentioned in newspaper articles. 20 people have dinner with Lois prior to her presentation. GREO begins as an informal association of groups and individuals dedicated to fighting against toxic chemical pollution, with the idea that no one community's solution should become another community's problem.

1982: The Statewide Movement Opposing Killer Environments (SMOKE) is formed. SMOKE is a coalition of grass roots groups fighting to prevent construction of garbage incinerators throughout New Jersey and fighting for full scale recycling, waste reduction and composting programs.

June 1993: BOATS, ICATW, and GNBCTW hold "Revival for Survival," 50 small boats in a flotilla symbolizing concerns about the At-Sea Incineration proposal.

September 25, 1983: Members of SMOKE mark "Dioxin Day" by releasing orange balloons in Rockaway Township, Newark, and 3 other counties where garbage incinerators were proposed.

October 1983: GREO incorporates both within the state and as a 501(c)(3) organization.

November 1983: GREO starts submitting proposals to fund SMOKE. Since garbage incineration is still too controversial an issue, organizing efforts to stop their construction will not be funded. GREO changes course and seeks support of work to provide organizing and technical assistance, as well as legal referral, to grass roots groups concerned about toxic chemical pollution problems. We extend our work beyond the Ironbound and have statewide involvement around a variety of pollution issues.

Wherever industry or the state went, communities were going to be there to support each other. We worked together to clean up chemical pollution or stop proposals that would pollute areas not yet polluted. GREO emerged as a force to connect these groups, to encourage grass roots democracy and challenge corporate polluters.

--Matt Krautheim, GREO Co-Chair

February 2, 1984: GREO coordinator, Madelyn Hoffman, testifies before Congress on the need to reauthorize Superfund legislation.

April 4, 1984: GREO organizes a "Citizens' Hearing on Hazardous Waste Clean Up," at which approximately 200 people testified about the clean up problems in their communities. The Catch-22 between the Superfund, the NJ Spill Fund, and a \$100 million bond issue passed in 1981 was discussed. This Catch-22 guarantees that no clean up would occur. GREO releases a report entitled "Breaking Down the Barriers to Hazardous Waste Clean Up."

May 1984 - June 1984: Citizens' groups launch drive to convince DEP Commissioner Robert Hughey to resign because of the DEP's refusal to spend money on clean up of hazardous waste sites. Ten thousand signatures are gathered and submitted to the DEP. Commissioner Hughey resigns a few months later and says "it had nothing to do with citizens' pressure."

May 1984: GREO works with Manville residents to oppose the construction of a garbage incinerator at the Johns Manville plant on Main Street. Five hundred (500) residents appear at a forum to voice strong opposition to this plan.

May 1985: Professor Alan Block, co-author of Poisoning for Profit: The Mafia and Toxic Waste in America, addresses residents of Perth Amboy and surrounding communities who are concerned about illegal disposal of hazardous wastes and a proposed plan to build a facility in Perth Amboy to store and process chemicals which would later be burned at sea.

June 1985: GREO attends a seminar of chemists, biophysicists and community activists and sounds the alarm that burning plastics can create unacceptable levels of dioxin emissions.

September 1985: Dr. Barry Commoner appears in Trenton, at GREO's request, to speak against construction of a garbage incinerator in Mercer County. He calls the incinerator a "dioxin factory," and says it would be a terrible mistake to construct it.

October 1985: Madelyn Hoffman is hired as Director of GREO, after GREO succeeds in obtaining its first grant. Thanks to the Fund for New Jersey for their early support of our work.

November 1985: Dr. Paul Connett of St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York; Karen Shapiro, Research Assistant for Dr. Barry Commoner of the Center for Biology of Natural Systems, Queens College, New York, testify before Morris County Solid Waste Advisory Committee to urge them not to move forward with plans to build a garbage incinerator.

January 1986: Dr. Paul Connett speaks at a forum in Pennsauken on "How Emissions from Mass Burn Incinerators Can Affect You." This forum was sponsored by Stop Incineration Now and by GREO. Following this presentation, Dr. Connett made appearances in Kearny and in Middlesex County.

May 1986: GREO and 10 citizens' groups from New Jersey attend the Citizens' Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes (CCHW) First National Grass Roots Convention.

1987: GREO holds Citizens' Hearings on Solid Waste in all 4 regions of the state.

April 1988: First annual "New Jersey Is My BackYard (NIMBY)" Convention held in Bridgewater.

1989: Governor's Task Force on Solid Waste issues a report setting a 60% recycling goal for NJ and stating that no more than 6 incinerators should be built. Those incinerators that were built must be regional in nature. This was a change in rhetoric, at least, if not in reality.

June 1989: GREO addresses 4 classes at Penns Grove High School, re: dangers of hazardous waste incineration.

August 1989: In response to an informational open house in Rahway, Mayor Martin warns against "outside agitators spreading misinformation about the proposed incinerator."

October 1989: 25 grass roots groups in New Jersey are honored by the Citizens' Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes at their national convention in Washington, D.C.

November 1989: The Clean Sludge Coalition is formed with GREO as one of its members because of our connection to and work with grass roots groups concerned about proposed sewage sludge incinerators. All 5 of the largest Sewerage Authorities, once dumping their sludge in the ocean, were convinced by the combined efforts of all members of the Clean Sludge Coalition, as well as local grass roots groups, to abandon plans to incinerate their sludge and to instead proceed with "beneficial use" alternatives.

April 1990: GREO conducts a workshop for Project CARE, a program for high school students, on the "Grass Roots Environmental Movement in New Jersey."

April 1990: GREO joins Greenpeace and activists from around the state in Bridgewater to protest American Cyanamid's alleged practice of exporting mercury contaminated wastes to South Africa, as well as sloppy housekeeping practices at their Bound Brook plant. A peaceful march to the gates of the plant, in order to present an oversized postcard, was greeted with cops in riot gear.

April 1990: GREO works with SCAT (Salem Countians Against Toxins) to stop construction of a hazardous waste incinerator at DuPont's Chambersworks Plant in Deepwater. GREO also supports Concerned Citizens of Linden in their opposition to construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in Linden.

June 1990: GREO works with Greenpeace on a 21-day tour of New Jersey, with stops in many communities fighting proposed garbage incinerators.

August 6, 1990: Candlelight vigil at Governor Florio's Mansion at Drumthwacket to protest construction of garbage incinerators in New Jersey, attended by 125 people. A wall of petitions, 250 feet long and 4 feet high, was displayed. Over 50,000 signatures were on this petition calling for a moratorium on construction of incinerators and a need for full-scale recycling and composting programs.

November 1990: All candidates for Governor in New Jersey addressed garbage incineration as a key component of their campaigns, some calling for a 5-year moratorium on incineration, others calling for a 2-year moratorium, still others calling for a need to "re-evaluate" our commitment to incineration.

1991: Grass roots groups and Greenpeace file suit against the Hazardous Waste Siting Commission for failure to consider DuPont's hazardous waste incinerator proposal under S-1300.

March 17, 1991: Ocean dumping of sewage sludge ends.

August 1991: Members of the Middlesex County Environmental Coalition join with Concerned Citizens of Union County to stop a plan to export garbage from Middlesex County to Rahway.

August 1991: GREO begins work with Frank Sico/Claire Walters who are trying to find out the full extent of toxic chemical contamination on the property of Cooper Industries/McGraw Edison in Bloomfield.

September 12 - 14, 1991: Lois Gibbs and GREO travel from one end of NJ to the other on a "toxic tour" of 12 communities. September 13 is a special dinner to honor GREO's first five years. Robert Corman, Director of the Fund for New Jersey when it first supported GREO, was honored, as well as representatives of a dozen citizen action groups.

October 1991: Halloween Action by Save Our Ocean, "Ghosts and Ghouls and Ciba-Geigy," to protest their attempts to send toxics through Ocean County Utilities Authority.

November 5, 1991: Monmouth County votes against Westinghouse garbage incinerator on a county-wide referendum.

November 1991: GREO and Jane Nogaki of the NJ Environmental Federation hold press conference to pressure DEP into adopting health-based standards for mercury emissions.

December 1991: NJDEP approves construction of Rahway garbage incinerator. Middlesex County Freeholders reject plan to export trash to Rahway.

January 1, 1992: Ciba's pipeline is closed.

February 1992: Ciba-Geigy pleads guilty to 140 counts of negligent discharge of pollutants.

March 1992: Save Our Ocean continues campaign to prevent Ciba-Geigy from discharging pollutants through Ocean County Utilities Authority pipeline.

April 25, 1992: 19 activists from Rahway and surrounding area are arrested for trespassing on the property of the Ogden-Martin garbage incinerator in Rahway.

April 1992: One hundred students from the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC), GREO and other groups rally against incineration in Trenton. A mock trial is held at which Governor Florio is found guilty of many wrongs against the environment.

June 1992: Two hundred residents of Carteret demonstrate against a proposed sewage sludge incinerator. GREO attends along with other groups to speak against this plan.

August 18, 1992: Country singer Bonnie Raitt invites GREO to set up information table at the Garden State Arts Center and from the stage urges fans to support GREO's work.

September 21, 1992: GREO members attend 1st annual Citizens' Conference on Dioxin in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

September 28, 1992: The Eco-Justice Working Group, of which GREO is a member, sponsors a conference entitled "Stopping the Assault on Our Communities: Congregations Acting Together for Economic and Environmental Justice." An Eco-Justice resolution and group statement is written to be sent to Governor Florio and the DEP.

February 18, 1993: Concerned Residents Against Ash Paving, One Clean World and GREO hold a press conference to protest plans to use Warren County's garbage incinerator ash to pave a section of the Allamuchy rest stop on Route 80.

March 1993: GREO begins work, along with other groups, to prevent American Soil from losing its permit to compost food wastes in Freehold. In April 1994, American Soil's permit is extended and expanded.

July 3, 1993: Rally and civil disobedience to protest construction of WTI Incinerator in East Liverpool; NJ activist Anna Maria Caldara is arrested for "incommoding."

Summer 1993: DuPont withdraws proposal to construct hazardous waste incinerator.

September 22, 1993: Phone-In Day to inform Governor Florio that paving roads with incinerator ash is unacceptable.

October 8-9, 1993: Lois in New Jersey for a "toxic tour." Groups release an "Environmental Bill of Rights."

January 1994: NJSAFE calls for moratorium on construction of new power plants and begins petition drive.

January 17, 1994: Lakewood Residents Association, Greenpeace and GREO display the CYRUS solar generator in Lakewood as an alternative to proposed power plant which would run on fossil fuels.

February 2, 1994: GREO participates in legislative hearing to consider reversing solid waste hierarchy, putting incineration back on top of the list. The hierarchy was not changed.

February 21, 1994: Justice Day at the Rahway incinerator. People show up with all kinds of cardboard fish, to represent the statewide mercury crisis.

March 7, 1994: GREO testifies about need to maintain and strengthen clean up standard of 1 excess cancer rate in one million, in light of industry's proposal to allow them to determine on a case by case basis what clean up standard is appropriate.

April 1994: GREO and citizens' groups develop "Shinn's List," a list of actions taken by new DEP Commissioner Bob Shinn that impact negatively on the environment and protect industry. Activists begin letter-writing campaign to Governor Whitman on the need for her to prevent construction of new sources of mercury, reduce and eliminate mercury already in the environment.

May 1994: Lois Gibbs meets with Manchester residents to help them organize a group dedicated to learning more about the Ocean County Landfill.

May 1994: Administrative Law Judge affirms grass roots position, that no trucks carrying hazardous waste should be allowed down city streets, thus putting one more roadblock in the way of building a hazardous waste incinerator in Linden.

June 21, 1994: GREO and NJPIRG hold rally outside of meeting of the Chemical Manufacturers' Association. The CMA unveiled a "Responsible Care" program that was challenged by the environmental groups as inconsistent with their actions to cut clean up programs and to roll back environmental policies.

July 17, 1994: GREO holds rally in front of meeting of the Chemical Industry Council in Absecon. Their keynote speaker is John Stossel, moderator of nationally televised program "Are We Scaring Ourselves to Death?" where he minimized dangers of toxic chemical pollution.

August 6, 1994: The first annual Environmental Defense Day, results in hundreds of signatures on a petition calling for more environmental protection not less, and hundreds of telephone calls to Governor Whitman's offices on that subject.

November 18 - 20, 1994: GREO, together with statewide groups in Pennsylvania and New York, as well as the CCHW, sponsors a 3 day conference called "Continuing Education for Organizers." Over 120 people attend.

December 1994: People Against Co-Gen in Bayonne win fight because Con Ed deems electricity produced by proposed plant will be too expensive.

December 1994: GREO serves as NJ coordinator to arrange testimony at the EPA Hearing on their 1994 Draft Reassessment Report on dioxin -- "we're already full."

December 16, 1994: GREO convinces other statewide environmental groups not to support legislation that would allow flow control to be grandfathered in New Jersey.

November 1994 - January 1995: Morris County/Essex County residents work together to try to prevent Morris County from bringing its trash to the Newark garbage incinerator. While the agreement was approved in both counties, it can not take place if flow control is not constitutional, so the agreement never went into effect.

December 1994: We worked with NJPIRG to coordinate a 19 day, 21county "Toxic Caravan," addressing the need for "more environmental protection, not less," and to help create opposition to changes in the Pollution Prevention Law.

January 19, 1995: Press Conference to expose deficiencies in Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission process of selecting vendor to implement beneficial use alternative. A special hearing was held in April 1994 to allow citizens to express their concerns more fully.

April 28 - 30, 1995: GREO and Concerned Citizens of Union County, help write Dying from Dioxin at a Roundtable sponsored by CCHW.

June 6, 1995: GREO and NJPIRG hold "Health and the Environment" Conference. Over 100 people attend.

July 17, 1995: Citizens' Petition on NJ's Mercury Crisis filed as comments with DEP, calling for no weakening of mercury emissions reporting standards, and action to address the emergency which exists.

September 30, 1995: First annual Environmental Summit at Rutgers Law School attended by 50 people from the area surrounding Newark Bay/Arthur Kill.

October 14, 1995: First Indigenous People's Conference. GREO speaks about how when it comes to protection of our environment and public health, we are all in a situation similar to native peoples, who faced broken promise after broken promise.

November 6, 1995: Rally at Bloomfield City Hall to obtain full clean up of Westinghouse property.

March 1996: GREO attends 3rd annual Citizens' Conference on Dioxin

April 28, 1996: GREO participates in preliminary meeting sponsored by CCHW to establish a "National Alliance for Organizers."

January 1996: GREO works with Phil Reynolds to promote the New Jersey Environmental Bulletin Board Service, which also includes a list serve on environmental issues.

June 1996: GREO attends Program on Corporations, Law and Democracy. Participation in this meeting inspires some activists to begin looking at ways to attack Ogden-Martin's corporate charter.

June 1996: Judge Beglin rules that DEP is within its rights to pave Center Drive in Elizabeth with garbage incinerator ash even though they never held a public hearing on this project, and even though the Elizabeth City Council and the Union County Freeholders were against it.

August 27, 1996: Children and counselors of the Joy Tabernacle Christian Ministries Day Camp travel with GREO to Trenton in hopes of meeting with the Governor or her representative. They have a banner of posters strung together, a letter to present, and a song to sing.

September 7, 1996: RESTORE sponsors march through Elizabeth, ending with skit dramatizing the cozy relationship between government and industry.

September 28, 1996: RESTORE sponsors 2nd annual Environmental Summit. Premiere showing of a videotape taken of victims of toxic chemical pollution occurs. This tape includes interviews with residents of Jersey City, who believe their health has been affected by exposure to chromium contamination.

Special Accomplishments of Board Members and Groups:

MERCURY POLICY:

As Freeholder of Camden County, Mark Lohbauer succeeded in getting a health-based standard for mercury emissions from garbage incinerators passed by the Camden County Freeholders. This created a stir in Trenton, and while it was rejected by the DEP, Governor Florio established a Task Force to address the issues of mercury in New Jersey. This resulted in research being conducted which concluded that fish in many of New Jersey's fresh waters had unacceptable levels of mercury in their bodies. Fish advisories were issued for throughout the state, because citizens refused to accept DEP's lack of action on the issue. A Citizens' Petition was prepared in July 1995 asking the DEP and EPA to declare a state of emergency and treat the mercury problem with the attention it deserves.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND POLICY:

14 out of 19 garbage incinerator proposals in this state were defeated. Citizens' groups in communities around all but one of the existing incinerators are still organized to try to shut down these 5 and intense citizens' opposition has developed yet again in Mercer County, as grass roots groups try to prevent one more incinerator from going on line.

Grass roots groups worked to close several contaminated landfills -- High Point Landfill in Sussex County, Waste Disposal Inc. Landfill in Howell Township and Kinsley Landfill in Deptford, PJP Landfill in Jersey City.

New Jersey's recycling rates are very high compared to the rest of the nation and grass roots groups continue to push for increased waste reduction, recycling and composting programs.

No new medical waste incinerators have been built in New Jersey, nor have incinerators not licensed to receive medical waste been allowed to expand their operations to include burning of medical wastes.

All 6 sewerage authorities who once dumped sludge in the ocean, but stopped due to the Ocean Dumping Ban Act of 1991, decided against constructing incinerators to burn sludge. All but one had initially decided to proceed with incineration, but citizens' opposition convinced them otherwise.

ENERGY POLICY:

1994: NJ Sustainable Alternatives For Energy (NJSafe) is formed, a coalition of grass roots groups opposed to needless construction of power plants utilizing coal and natural gas, because of the pollution they would cause and because of the need to develop sustainable energy alternatives. In the next 18 months, ALL projects targeted by the groups, save one, were defeated, including Crown Vista's 362 Megawatt coal-burning power plant.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL:

No new major hazardous waste facility has been constructed anywhere in the state of New Jersey since 1980. Hazardous waste incinerators were defeated in Newark, Deepwater, Bridgewater, Millstone, to name a few. At Sea Incineration was defeated in Newark and Perth Amboy. Land entombment of hazardous wastes was defeated in East Greenwich. Instead, much more attention has been focused on the need to adopt pollution prevention programs, so that companies can reduce or eliminate the toxic wastes they produce. Efforts continue to prevent construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in the densely populated city of Linden, which already suffers more than its fair share of toxic chemical pollution.

Citizens' involvement has resulted in better clean up plans for several New Jersey landfills, including Lipari Landfill, the nation's #1 Superfund site and the Kramer Landfill, #3 on New Jersey's list. However, particularly in the case of Lipari, there are continued concerns that irreparable health problems have been caused by the terrible contamination at the site.

RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL:

Citizens' groups faced with the prospect of hosting a low-level radioactive waste facility have informed themselves and their communities. Community after community has decided that they would rather not proceed with discussions about the possibility of accepting such a facility and instead have suggested better ways to address the entire problem of low level radioactive wastes. This includes providing a more accurate definition of what is low level, separating nuclear power plant wastes from hospital wastes, and continuing to require hospitals to reduce the amount of wastes they generate.

CITIZENS' AWARENESS:

GREO facilitated statewide action to address proposals that further threaten New Jersey's environment. That includes a campaign to educate residents about all those who have been selected to serve as the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection. This has led to development of a set of qualifications for a Commissioner which have yet to be met. Perhaps one day, New Jersey will have a DEP Commissioner whose first priority is the environment and public health, not the corporations the DEP regulates.

Since 1993, New Jersey has experienced an unprecedented attack on the policies and regulations put in place after more than a decade of grass roots activism. However, it is a tribute to the strength of the grass roots that despite these attacks, victories can still be achieved. GREO intends to continue to offer organizing and technical assistance to grass roots efforts throughout New Jersey, as the grass roots environmental movement in New Jersey continues to grow.

My association with this vast network and the small part I've played in its development has been a source of great pride for me. I look forward to the next ten years of participation with the people of New Jersey in our struggle for a cleaner, healthier state and environment.

--Matt Krautheim, GREO Co-Chair

Thanks to GREO

You protest from place to place
Fighting battles through and through
Never once stopping to see all
The good that you do.

Injustices are being done to
The weak and the small
And only you and your team
Can fight the battles and win them all.

And over your ten year span
You rose above and took a stand
Fought for rights and stopped the wrongs
Helping folks to get along.

And although you're not big like a corporation
You've changed the policies of a nation
So to GREO we give praise
(Sorry, Madelyn, it doesn't include a raise.)

With little money you keep up the fight
Through brightest day or darkest night
You stand for principles lost
And fight on regardless of the cost.

You've won some battles and the people cheer
Good luck for the next 10 years!

--Michael J. Schwartz

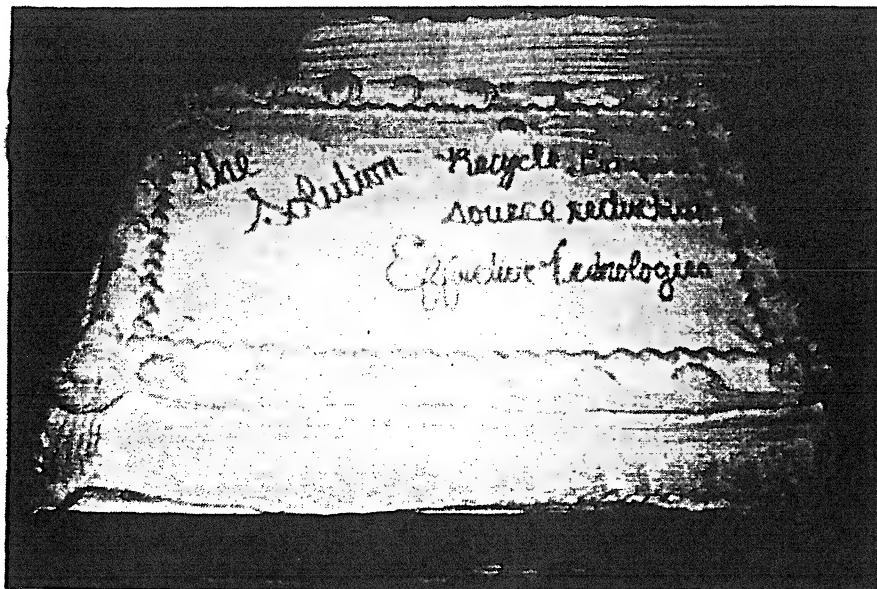
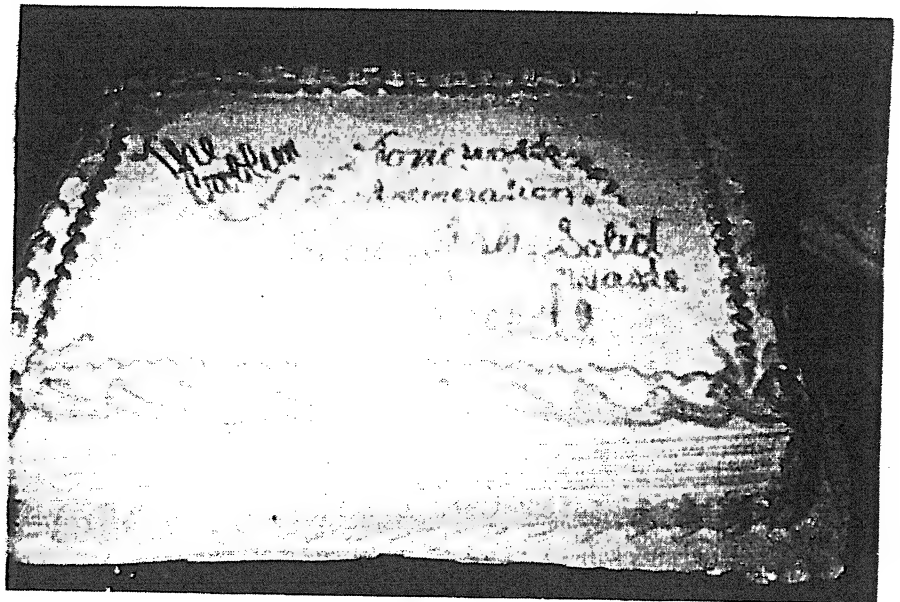


← BOARD MEMBERS MARK LOHBAUER AND SUSAN ANDREWS ADDRESS PARTICIPANTS AT THE 2ND ANNUAL "New Jersey Is My BackYard (NIMBY)" CONVENTION, CHERRY HILL, NJ
APRIL 1989

"BAKER BOB" SPIEGEL
CREATES CAKE HIGHLIGHTING
SOME OF THE PROBLEMS GRASS ROOTS
GROUPS FACE AND



SOME OF OUR PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
(PREPARED FOR GREO'S 5TH
ANNIVERSARY)



GREO

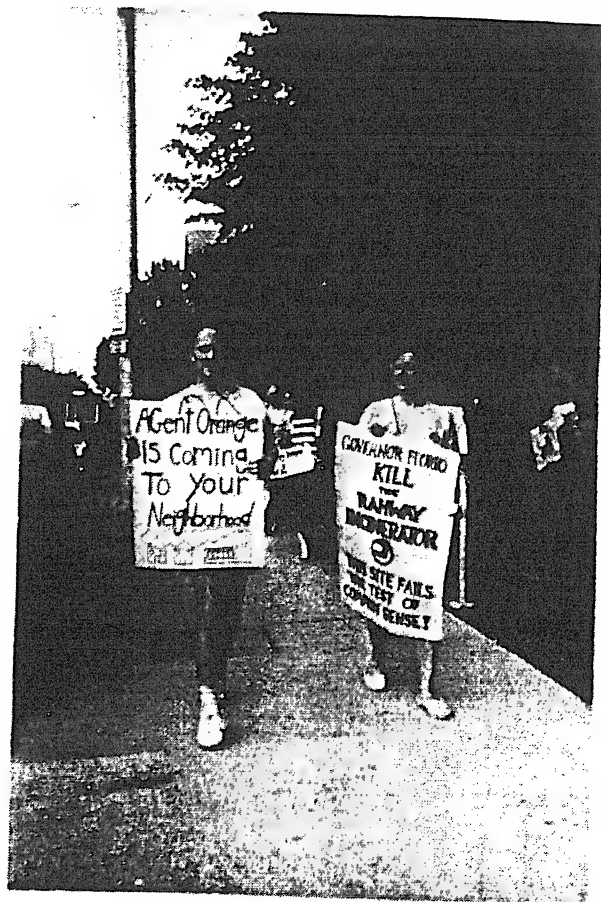
CELEBRATES

THE

ACTIVISTS



↑
SALEM COUNTY RESIDENTS PROTEST
DUPONT'S PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A
HAZARDOUS WASTE INCINERATOR IN DEEPWATER
JANUARY 16, 1984



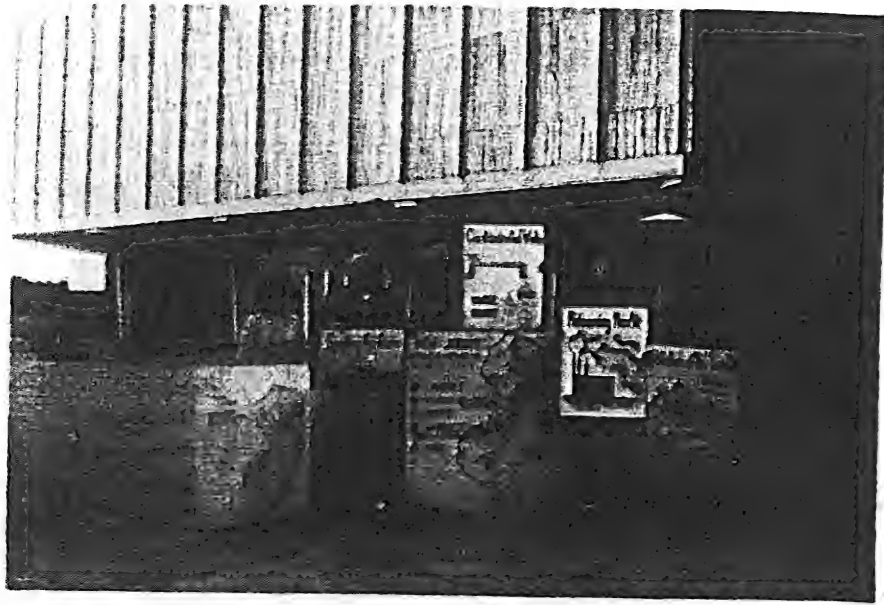
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CONCERNED CITIZENS OF UNION COUNTY,
PETER BUROFF AND SANDY CARSON, PARTICIPATE
IN PROTEST AGAINST RAHWAY GARBAGE INCINERATOR



CHILDREN'S MARCH AGAINST PASSAIC COUNTY GARBAGE
INCINERATOR - JUNE 8, 1990

"THE NOWHERE TO
 RUN,
 NOWHERE TO HIDE"
 PRESS CONFERENCE
 TRENTON
 October 12, 1988 →

pictured: (l to r) Fran Ogin,
 Frank Livelli, Somerset
 County Activist, Barbara
 Ruebush, Susan Andrews



THE 1st ANNUAL
 "New Jersey Is My Back Yard"
 CONVENTION
 BRIDGEWATER

pictured:
 in middle, Julian Capik
 with hat, Susan Blumig
 APRIL 1988 ←

RESIDENTS OF
 ATLANTIC COUNTY
 AND
 MERCER COUNTY
 HOLD "WIENER
 ROAST" TO PROTEST
 DEP COMMISSIONER
 SCOTT WIENER'S →
 DIRECTIVE FOR
 MORE INCINERATORS,
 ATLANTIC COUNTY
 ADMINISTRATION
 BUILDING
 1991





← ENVIRONMENTAL RIBBON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DISPLAYED ON STATEHOUSE STEPS, TRENTON, JANUARY 15, 1993, MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

GROUPS

TRAVEL

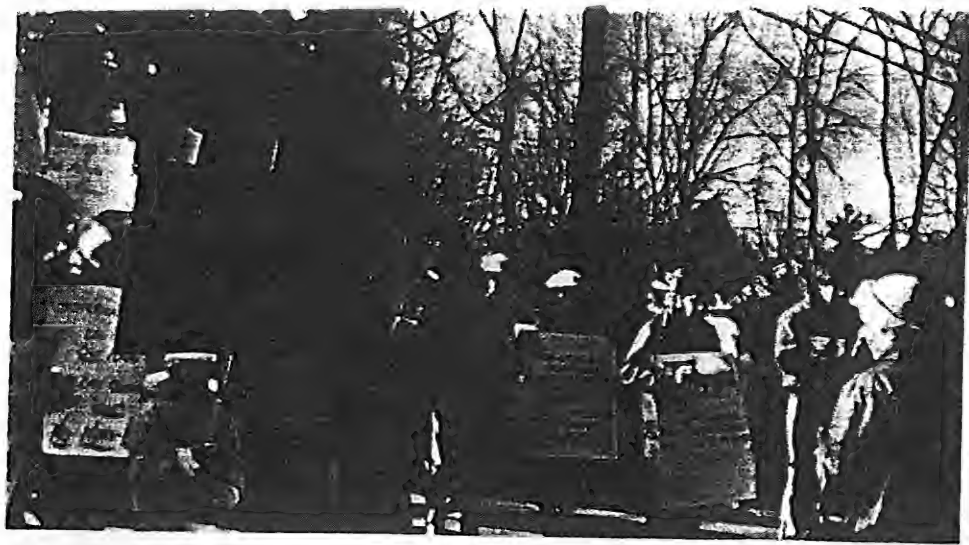
TO

TRENTON



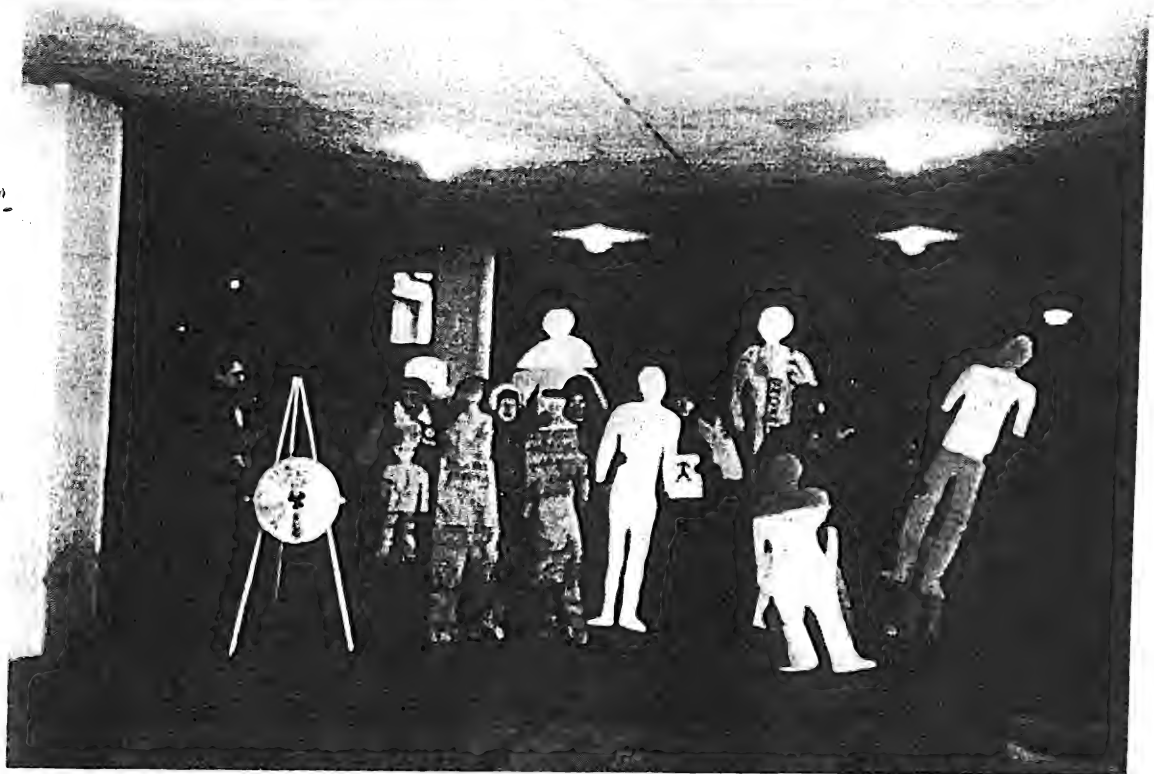
← CHILDREN AND COUNSELORS FROM JOY TABERNACLE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES DAY CAMP IN NEWARK TRAVEL TO TRENTON TO MEET WITH GOVERNOR WHITMAN, AUGUST 27, 1996. THE GOVERNOR "WASN'T THERE."

GROUPS TRAVEL TO
GOVERNOR KEAN'S HOME
IN LIVINGSTON TO
PROTEST INCINERATION
PLANS
FEBRUARY 6, 1988



BOB SPIEGEL
STANDS BY
"WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE"-
UNIVERSITY OF
MEDICINE AND
DENTISTRY,
NEWARK
HEARING ON EPA
REPORT ON DIOXIN
"WE'RE ALREADY
FULL"

DECEMBER 1994

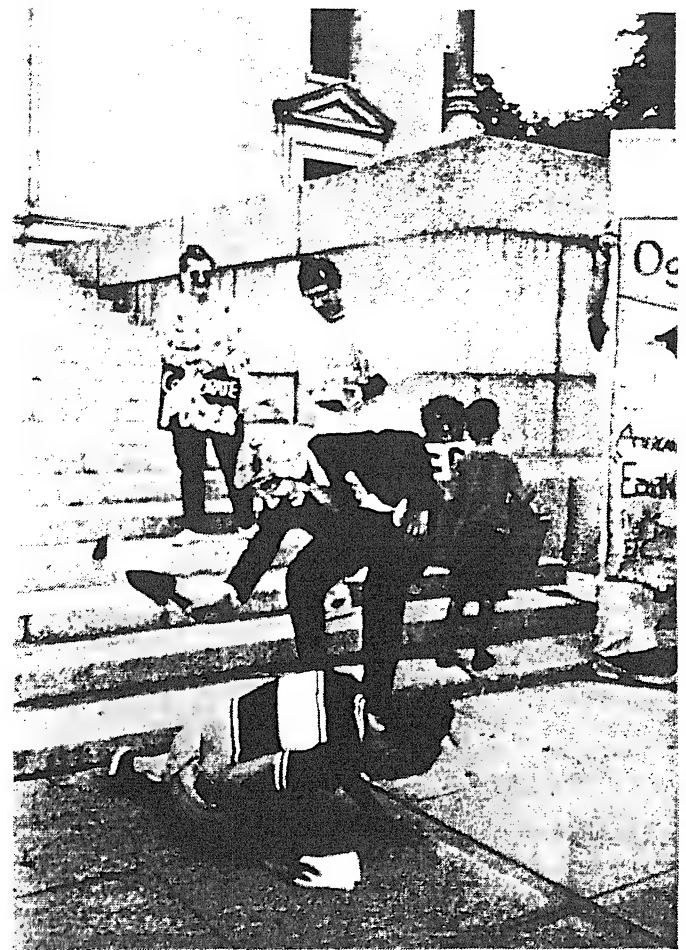


NEW JERSEY
TRAVELS TO
EPA IN WASHINGTON
TO PROTEST
ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY





"GOVERNOR WHITMAN" STEPS OUT OF THE
CORPORATE POCKET - SEPTEMBER 7, 1996



"GOVERNOR WHITMAN" BEATS DEMOCRACY
TO NEAR DEATH - SEPTEMBER 7, 1996

RESTORE

FOR

STEPS OF

ELIZABETH, NJ



JUDGE PLACES "CHAIN OF SHAME" ON "GOVERNOR WHITMAN'S"
SHOULDERS

SPEAKS OUT

ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE

UNION COUNTY
COURTHOUSE

SEPTEMBER 7, 1996

Groups Honored at GREO's 10th Anniversary Celebration

Coalition for a United Elizabeth (CUE): The Coalition for a United Elizabeth was not organized to address toxic chemical pollution problems. But when Chemical Control exploded and caught fire in 1979, CUE was the citizens' group that got involved in researching what had transpired. CUE monitored the clean up plans, followed the health history of fire personnel that fought the fire and exposed problems with clean up and problems with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and their handling of pollution problems. CUE's job is now taken on by the Elizabeth Earth Committee, formed more in 1992.

CHORD(Communities Helping to Oppose Radioactive Dumping): Born in 1995, this relatively new organization developed in response to the Low Level Radioactive Waste Facility Siting Board and its efforts to find a community that would volunteer to host the state's only "low-level" radioactive waste facility. The coalition is propelled primarily by residents of Roosevelt and residents of Hamburg, two communities where some degree of interest was shown by a few elected officials. In both instances, discussions stopped, as local residents pointed out the reasons that the proposal was unacceptable for their communities.

Concerned Citizens of Maywood: For 10 years of persistence in addressing the clean up of thorium-contaminated soil at Stepan Chemical, for working together with the Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras, concerned about Stepan Chemical's activities in Mexico, for pressuring the Department of Energy to adopt the strictest clean up standard for the site, for conducting research into the impact this pollution has on the health of surrounding residents, for working with other groups impacted by radioactive wastes in New Jersey, for continuing to work for proper clean up of the site.

Concerned Citizens of Union County: Beginning in 1985 as Rahway Against Garbage Environments, becoming Concerned Citizens for the Environment of Rahway, and then finally the Concerned Citizens of Union County, this group provides much of the direction, focus and energy of the grass roots environmental movement in New Jersey. In 1990 - 1992, the Concerned Citizens increased political pressure on then Governor Jim Florio, in an effort to get him to cancel the Rahway garbage incinerator, in the same way he had canceled the Passaic garbage incinerator. The Concerned Citizens followed Governor Florio all around the state and publicized the connection between his administration and the garbage incinerator industry, all in efforts to prevent the incinerator's construction. In April 1992, the Concerned Citizens committed civil disobedience, citing "the necessity defense" as cause of their action -- the impending danger represented by the incinerator was so great that it was necessary for them to trespass on the incinerator's property, to show their concern. In January 1993, the Concerned Citizens committed civil disobedience again when Ogden-Martin refused to install mercury control devices on their incinerator. The Concerned Citizens provide support for groups all around the state and continue to work to show that incineration is not necessary in Rahway, or anywhere else in New Jersey.

Greater Newark Bay Coalition Against Toxic Wastes: This organization was the driving force in opposing At-Sea Incineration. The GNBCTW included BOATS, CUE, ICATW and others. Together, the groups prevented construction of At-Sea Incineration -- delaying permit approval so long that the company went bankrupt and defaulted on their loans. By offering support across the country to other groups concerned about this kind of proposal, incineration at sea was abandoned by the EPA as a viable waste disposal option. At-Sea Incineration would involve storing and mixing the most hazardous chemicals on land -- dioxins, PCB's, nerve gases and pesticides -- loading them on to an incinerator ship, navigating the channel and burning the toxics at sea. In addition, GNBCTW organized a Revival for Survival, a flotilla of ships leaving from the Bayonne Marina, in a magnificent display of opposition to At-Sea Incineration's plan. Lastly, the Coalition helped establish the Alternative Siting Commission, which presented well-thought out criteria for

determining whether or not New Jersey needed a new hazardous waste facility, let alone rational criteria for siting which would protect densely populated, already polluted and overburdened areas from additional pollution.

Delaware Valley Concerned Citizens: The Delaware Valley Concerned Citizens waged a 5-year battle to prevent Crown Vista from building a 360 megawatt per day coal burning power plant in the middle of an area already saturated with mercury pollution. In September 1995, DVCC was rewarded by Crown Vista admitting their defeat and leaving town. In the interim, DVCC was in the forefront of a fight to modify the state's energy master plan, to expose the dangers of mercury emissions and other emissions from burning coal, and to build NJSAFE, a coalition of groups concerned that the state not built unnecessary power plants. Beth Crane and Susan Spicer have shared much valuable information with others throughout the state -- and their victory was so sweet!

Edison Wetlands Association: The Edison Wetlands Association worked hard to evaluate proposed clean up plans for some of the state's worst Superfund sites, including the Kin-Buc Landfill and the Chemical Insecticide Corporation. They applied for and received a Technical Assistance Grant from the EPA. They are willing to share the expertise they gained from this experience with other groups. Since there are over 100 Superfund sites in New Jersey, their skills and experience are invaluable. In addition, the Wetlands Association is one of the few groups whose initial focus was land preservation, i.e. the Dismal Swamp, but then expanded to include the need to protect the environment from toxic chemical pollution.

Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes: Founded in February 1980, the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes has scored more victories than most communities have battles. An ethnically and racially mixed organization, made up of low-to-moderate income people, the Committee has overcome many obstacles and accomplished the following: 1. prevented construction of SCA's proposed hazardous waste incinerator, less than 100 feet away from the nearest home; 2. defeated construction of the world's largest sludge incinerator, proposed for Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission property at Wilson Avenue and Avenue P in Newark; 3. accomplished clean up of Ferry Wholesalers, All County Environmental, and others, while pushing for appropriate clean up of Diamond Shamrock's dioxin contamination, the Ironbound Stadium property, and others; 4. defined the issues and problems with garbage incineration.

Millstone Area Against Toxic Incineration (MAATI): This organization, among others, lead a successful fight to prevent construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in the Township of Millstone. The research done on the dangers of hazardous waste incineration was shared statewide. Their determination and success made many other groups in New Jersey more confident they could win -- Since 1980, no new major hazardous waste facility has been built in New Jersey and MAATI was a part of that success. More recently, members of MAATI assisted residents of neighboring Roosevelt in researching the state's plan to build a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility.

Middlesex County Environmental Coalition: For 10 years of activism, beginning with opposition to a garbage incinerator proposed for East Brunswick, to preventing the Middlesex County Freeholders from purchasing Edgeboro Landfill, to conducting research to determine the extent of contamination at Edgeboro Landfill, for petitioning to place Edgeboro on the Superfund list, to protesting the excessive odors at the MCUA's chemical fixation plant for sewage sludge, to working with residents of Sayreville (SCADD) to organize against the proposal to take dioxin-contaminated sediments landfill dredged from Newark Bay and to construct 30 foot high mountains of sludge in a marshland behind 3 large developments. This group of dedicated activists has worked against tremendous odds and have refused to give up even as the issues became more complex and their numbers decreased.

Monmouth County Citizens for Clean Air and Water: This award is for defeating a county-wide referendum placed on the ballot by the Monmouth County Freeholders. The referendum allowed voters to decide whether or not they wanted Westinghouse to construct a garbage incinerator in the county. Despite being out spent by a wide margin, the citizens prevailed, the referendum was defeated, and the garbage incinerator was never built.

Save Our Ocean: This organization has a well-deserved reputation for being uncompromising, persistent and very knowledgeable, all characteristics of one of its leaders, the late Frank Livelli. He and others took on the challenge of working to close down a pipeline used by Ciba-Geigy to discharge toxic chemicals into the ocean off the coast of Lavallette. Together with other residents and groups, Save Our Ocean kept working until the pipeline was closed, beginning on January 1, 1992. Ciba lobbied against this effort, sending its employees to legislative hearings on the matter. But Save Our Ocean wouldn't quit. After a long fight, the pipeline was closed. Then Save Our Ocean had another fight on its hands. Ciba tried to reopen the pipeline, claiming it was necessary for clean up of the Superfund site on their property. Once again, Save Our Ocean prevailed.

Stop Incineration Now(SIN): Stop Incineration Now was organized in Pennsauken to oppose the construction of a garbage incinerator in Pennsauken. That fight was successful. One of SIN's members went on to be elected to Pennsauken Town Council and was appointed recycling coordinator. Despite efforts to deter his work, recycling in Pennsauken was very successful. From Town Council, Mark Lohbauer went on to become Camden County Freeholder. From that position, he and others who had been part of SIN, together with Camden residents opposed to the incinerator built in their community, developed the first health based standard for mercury in the state. While the DEP refused to accept that standard for the state's incinerators, a Mercury Emissions Setting Task Force was established. This Task Force, made up of several SIN members, issued a report which detailed the mercury crisis we currently face in New Jersey and showed how incinerators were responsible. Shortly thereafter, advisories warning against eating fish from New Jersey fresh waterways were issued. GREO thanks SIN for its pioneering work in this area.

We CARE: Another relatively new organization, We CARE is organized for the express purpose of monitoring the clean up of Westinghouse's large property in Bloomfield. They are fighting to convince local and state officials that since the Westinghouse property is located in the middle of a residential area, it should be cleaned up to residential, not industrial standards.

Awards to Individuals

Luane Acevedo: There are no words to describe the work that Luane Acevedo has done to protect the environment and public health. From preparing curriculum for school children, to pushing for recycling in schools, to opposing construction of incinerators to burn petroleum-contaminated soil, to traveling from county to county in support of groups opposing new pollution sources for their communities, to assisting in the fight to prevent construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in Millstone, to working with PICT (Preserve Indigenous Cultures and Traditions), an organization dedicated to working with native peoples, Luane has boundless energy, enthusiasm and commitment to protecting this earth and all its inhabitants.

Ed Davis/Dirk Ottens: For having the courage to investigate what really goes on in the hazardous waste disposal industry and to expose the connections between government and the industry it is supposed to regulate.

Mick Harrison: Mick has worked in New Jersey since 1985. He began his involvement assisting residents of Millstone in understanding the dangers of hazardous waste incineration. Since that time, he has worked with

citizens' groups throughout New Jersey, helping them to understand the full impact of the current mercury crisis New Jersey faces. He and Rich Condit, attorneys for GREENLAW, prepared and filed a Citizens' Petition detailing the state's lack of action on to address NJ's mercury crisis in July 1995.

Dr. Marc Lavietes: One of the few physicians who has been outspoken against incineration due to emissions of particulates. He has presented the mounting evidence that particulates cause asthma and other respiratory diseases and that greater levels of particulate pollution will result in more deaths. He is angry that those who live in inner cities are more seriously affected than those who live in areas with fewer pollution sources.

Ann and John Maddalena: Ann and John fought hard along with their community and were instrumental in defeating the Passaic County Garbage Incinerator, slated to be built across the street from a hospital. Since that victory, they have remained involved with pollution issues and their effect on public health. They produce a show called "Disabled Lifestyles" on Paterson cable and feature shows about toxic chemical pollution whenever possible.

Claire Walters and the late Frank Sico: This award goes to Claire and to the late Frank Sico, both of whom worked tirelessly to expose the full extent of contamination at Cooper Industries/ McGraw Edison in Bloomfield, site of a battery making operation for almost an entire century. The extensive heavy metal contamination backed up onto Frank and Claire's property. During clean up, contaminated soil was disturbed and dust filled the air. Frank contracted multiple myeloma in 1991, unusual for a man in his early 40's. Frank died in June 1996. But for those intervening years, he and Claire both tried to publicize the truth and were blocked at every turn. The grass roots environmental movement will miss Frank's persistence and energy, generosity and tenacity.

GREO's Mission Statement

GREO helps local groups fighting for clean-up of polluted landfills and against polluting industries. GREO assists groups in investigating proposals for new hazardous waste facilities, garbage incinerators, or landfills in their communities. By responding to needs the community itself identifies, GREO supports these communities in their efforts to eliminate environmental threats to public health. GREO works statewide to bring community groups together to share information, knowledge and experience to encourage unity in combatting dangers to public health.

GROUPS ASSISTED BY GREO (past and present)

AGENT, Frenchtown, Hunterdon County, Superfund clean up
Alliance to Save the Environment, Pennsauken, garbage incineration, hazardous waste clean up, landfills, air pollution
Allied Citizens Opposed to Pollution, Palmyra, garbage incineration, drinking water contamination
Alternate Refuse Technologies, Franklin Township, Somerset County, solid waste disposal
Americans for Environmental Action, Logan Township, Gloucester County, Rollins hazardous waste incinerator
American Association of University Women, environmental policy
American Soil, Freehold, Monmouth County, company that composts food waste
Atlantic County Environmental Response Network, Absecon, Atlantic County, garbage incineration and recycling
Atlantic County Environmental Society, Atlantic County, garbage incineration

Bayonne Citizens for Clean Air, Bayonne, Hudson County, sewage sludge incineration, hazardous waste clean up, garbage incineration
Bayonne Organizations Against Toxic Sites (BOATS), At-Sea Incineration
BellMawr Concerned Citizens, BellMawr, Gloucester County, DiFazio Landfill, garbage incineration
Belmont/Runyon School, Newark, Essex County, lead in water
Bergen County Residents Opposed to Incineration, Bergen County, garbage incineration and recycling
Bound Brook Citizens' Association, Bound Brook, Somerset County, garbage incineration, hazardous waste incineration, hazardous waste clean up at American Cyanamid, sewage sludge incineration
Burn Busters, Ltd., Great American Smokeout against proposed garbage incinerators

CAUSE, Little Ferry, Bergen County, sludge facility
Citizens' Advisory Committee, Old Bridge, Middlesex County
Citizens Against the Lafayette Landfill (CALL), Sussex County
Citizens Against Pollution, Gloucester County, air pollution
Citizens Against Trash to Steam, Camden, garbage incineration
Citizens Association for Protection of the Environment (CAPE), Cape May, Cape May Co.
Citizens Concerned About Chromium, Jersey City, Hudson County, 150 chromium-contaminated sites
Citizens for Safe Drinking Water, West Milford, drinking water contamination from leaking underground tanks
Citizens Health and Environment Committee (CHEC), Manchester, Ocean County, drinking water contamination, community health survey, air and water pollution from toxic sites
Citizens Helping Environmental Clean Up, Parlin, Middlesex Co, hazardous waste clean up, Global Landfill
Citizens Helping to Oppose Radioactive Dumping (CHORD), coalition of groups assisting communities faced with proposed low level radioactive waste facility
Citizens United Against Hazardous Waste Incineration, coalition of groups fighting for pollution prevention, not incineration
Clean Sludge Coalition, coalition of groups developing sane policy for sewage sludge disposal
Clifton-Lakeview Civic Association, Passaic County, garbage incinerator
Community Association of Manchester, Ocean County, drinking water contamination
Committee to Halt Construction of A Garbage Incinerator in the Meadowlands District, garbage incineration and recycling
Concerned Citizens of Allamuchy, Warren County, ash paving
Concerned Citizens of Bloomfield, Essex County, Cooper Industries/McGraw Edison, heavy metal contamination
Concerned Citizens of Boonton, Morris County, garbage incineration
Concerned Citizens of Carteret, Middlesex County, sludge incineration
Concerned Citizens of Linden, Union County, hazardous waste incineration, garbage incineration, sewage sludge incineration, hazardous waste clean up
Concerned Citizens of Maywood, Bergen County, Stepan Chemical and clean up of thorium
Concerned Citizens of Mt. Olive, Morris County, garbage incineration and recycling
Concerned Citizens of Morris County, garbage incineration and recycling
Concerned Citizens of North Bergen, North Bergen, Hudson County, garbage incineration and recycling
Concerned Citizens Organized for Pollution Prevention, Howell, Monmouth County, hazardous waste clean up, hazardous waste incineration, garbage incineration
Concerned Citizens of Oxford, Oxford, Warren County, garbage incineration and recycling, air pollution
Concerned Citizens of Port Reading, Port Reading, Middlesex Co., Hess Oil, garbage incineration and recycling

Concerned Residents Against Waste (CRAW), Hamburg, Sussex County, low-level radioactive waste disposal
 Concerned Residents Involved with Stopping Incinerators (CRISIS), Bridgewater, Somerset County, hazardous waste incineration, garbage incineration, hazardous waste clean up
 Concerned Citizens of Salem County, DuPont's proposed hazardous waste incinerator and landfill
 Concerned Citizens of Union County, garbage incineration, recycling, radioactive waste incineration, ash paving
 Concerned Citizens of Union Beach, Union Beach, Monmouth County, sludge incinerator
 Concerned Citizens of Wayne, radioactive contamination, W.R. Grace
 Concerned Residents Against Ash Paving (CRAAP), Hackettstown, Warren County, paving roads with incinerator ash
 Concerned Residents of Ridgely, Bergen County, garbage incineration, co-generation
 Custer/Pamrapo Block Association, Jersey City, Hudson County, air pollution, hazardous waste clean up

 Delaware Valley Concerned Citizens, Paulsboro, Gloucester County, Crown Vista coal burning power plant
 Deptford Citizens Against Landfills and Extensions (DECALE), Deptford, Gloucester County, contamination at Kinsley landfill
 Diamond Hill Homeowners Association, Warren County, water company's contaminated land and clean up costs

 East Bergen Residents Against Incineration, garbage incineration
 East Dover Committee for Clean Water, Ocean County, drinking water, ocean pollution, garbage incineration
 Eco-ALERT, Montclair, Essex County, garbage incineration and recycling
 Eco-Main: Essex County Organized for a Moratorium Against Incineration
 Edison Glen Residents, Edison, Middlesex County, Chemical Insecticide Corporation
 Edison Wetlands Association, Edison, Middlesex County, Chemical Insecticide Corporation, Kin-Buc Landfill, Superfund clean up
 Elizabeth Earth Committee, Elizabeth, Union County, ash paving, garbage incineration, dioxin-contaminated sediments
 Environmental Club of Ramapo High School, Franklin Lakes, Bergen County
 Environmental Response Network, Cape May County, garbage incineration, recycling, drinking water, contamination, ocean pollution

 Finderne Civic Association, Bridgewater, Somerset, hazardous waste incineration, garbage incineration
 Franklin Natural Resources Committee, Franklin, Warren County

 Governor's School of Monmouth County, issues affecting students, recycling in schools
 Greater Newark Bay Coalition Against Toxic Wastes, Newark, Essex County, At-Sea Incineration, hazardous waste facility siting
 Groups Against Garbage(GAG), Mercerville, Mercer County, garbage incineration and recycling
 Groups Against VanLeer Emissions, Jersey City, Hudson County, air pollution

 Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association, Jersey City, Hudson Co., air pollution
 Hawthorne Concerned Citizens, Passaic County, drinking water contamination and leukemia
 Homeowners Against Rural Dumping, Monroe Township, Middlesex County, construction of a landfill
 Homeowners Opposed to Polluted Environments (HOPE), South Brunswick, Middlesex County
 Howell Citizens Against Toxic Sites, Howell, Monmouth County, landfill contamination

 Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes, Newark, Essex County, garbage incineration, sewage sludge incineration, hazardous waste clean up, hazardous waste incineration
 Independent Residents Against Toxic Environments (IRATE), East Brunswick, Middlesex County, garbage incineration and Edgeboro Landfill

 Jackson CARES, Jackson, Monmouth, hazardous waste incineration
 Kearny Concerned Citizens, Kearny, Hudson County, garbage incineration and recycling, air pollution
 Kids Against Pollution, West Milford, styrofoam, recycling

 Lakewood Residents Association, Monmouth County, power plant construction
 Lavallette Citizens for Clean Water, Ocean County, epoxy resins as lining for pipes

Mansfield Township Environmental Commission, Mansfield, Burlington County, landfill contamination/expansion
Mercer Citizens Against Incineration, garbage incineration and recycling
Mercer Environmental Coalition, garbage incineration and recycling
Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry, Toxic Task Force, Montclair, Essex County, toxic chemical pollution
Middlesex County Environmental Coalition, Sayreville, Middlesex, garbage incineration, sludge disposal, Edgeboro Landfill
Millstone Area Against Toxic Incineration, Monmouth County, hazardous waste incineration
Millstone Township Taxpayers Association, Millstone, Monmouth County., hazardous waste incineration
Monmouth County Residents for Clean Air and Water, garbage incineration and recycling
Monmouth County Environmental Coalition, Marlboro, hazardous waste clean up, development on Superfund sites, incineration
Montgomery Township Environmental Commission, Somerset County, siting of an ash landfill

Neighborhood Toxic Emergency Center, Ariel, Gloucester County, hazardous waste clean up at Gems Landfill
New Jersey Sustainable Alternatives For Energy (NJSAFE), coalition of groups developing sane energy policy for NJ
No Dump, Inc., Hammonton, Atlantic County
No Dumps In Clean Environment (No DICE), East Greenwich, Gloucester County, hazardous waste reduction, hazardous waste clean up, development at Superfund sites
No Name Group, Millstone, Monmouth County, hazardous waste incineration

Ocean County Citizens for Clean Air, Tuckerton, Ocean County
Ocean County Citizens for Clean Water, Toms River, Ocean County, Ciba-Geigy, drinking water contamination, garbage incineration
One Clean World, Blairstown, Warren County, garbage incineration

Palisades Park Concerned Citizens, Palisades Park, Hudson County, garbage incineration and recycling
Parents Against Asbestos in Schools, North Bergen, Hudson County
Parents Against Asbestos Hazards in Schools, Maplewood, Essex County
People Against Co-Gen, Bayonne, Hudson County
People for Responsible Management of Radioactive Wastes, Whippany, Morris County
People United for a Klean Environment (PUKE), Mansfield, Burlington Co., Burlington County Landfill
Pine Lake Park Neighborhood Association, Toms River, Ocean County, drinking water contamination
Pitman Alcyon Lake Lipari Landfill Community Association, Pitman, Gloucester County, Lipari Landfill, #1 Superfund site in country
People Against Garbage, Trenton, Mercer County, garbage incineration and recycling
Preserve Indigenous Cultures and Traditions (PICT), Monmouth County, drinking water contamination, native people's issues
Princeton Oversight Committee, Princeton, Mercer County, asbestos removal

RADONS in Jackson, dumping of radium-contaminated soil from West Orange at Colliers Mills Wildlife Refuge
Rahway Against Garbage Environments (RAGE), Rahway, Union County, garbage incineration and recycling
Raritan Bay Coalition, South River, Middlesex County
RESTORE (Regional Strategies to Oppose Ruining the Environment), environmental justice
Rockaway Concerned Citizens, Rockaway, Morris County, garbage incineration and recycling

Salem Countians Against Toxins (SCAT), Deepwater, hazardous waste incineration
Say No To Ash Committee of Staten Island, ash landfilling
Sayreville Concerned Citizens, Middlesex County, housing near toxic waste sites
Save Our Ocean, Lavallette, Ocean County, ocean pollution, hazardous waste clean up, garbage incineration
Save Our Shores (SOS), Monmouth County health professionals, garbage incineration and recycling
Save Our State (SOS), Kearny, Hudson County, air pollution and incineration
Sayreville Citizens Against Dioxin Dumping (SCADD), Sayreville, Middlesex County, building 30 foot high mountain of dioxin-contaminated sediments from Newark Bay
Sayreville Citizens Opposed to a Polluted Environment (SCOPE), Sayreville, Middlesex County, hazardous waste clean up, garbage incineration and recycling

Society for a Better Environment, Florham Park, Morris County
South Jersey Work on Waste, Camden, Camden County, garbage incineration and recycling
Speak Out for Clean Air of Carteret, Middlesex County, air pollution, sewage sludge incineration
Special Committee Against Fouling the Environment (SAFE), Tinton Falls, Monmouth County, garbage incineration and recycling

Statewide Coalition Opposed to Polluted Environments
Statewide Movement Opposed to Killer Environments (SMOKE), coalition against garbage incineration
Stop All Incineration Now (SAIN), Lacey Township, Ocean County, garbage incineration and recycling
Stop the Incinerator Now (SIN), Pennsauken, Camden County, garbage incineration and recycling
Stop the Rock-a-Jet Incinerator Project (STRIP), Atco, Camden County, medical waste incinerator
Stop The Stack, Monmouth Beach, Monmouth County, sewage sludge incinerator
Thomas Street Area Residents, Newark, Essex County, hazardous waste clean up
Tinton Falls Taxpayers Association, Tinton Falls, Monmouth County, garbage incineration and recycling

United Passaic Organization, Passaic, garbage incineration
VOICE of Freehold, Monmouth County, co-generation plant
Voters Against Toxic Environments, Edison, Middlesex County

Waste Watchers, Upper Montclair, Essex County, recycling programs
We CARE, Bloomfield, Essex County, proper clean up of Westinghouse property contaminated with radioactive wastes
White Lung Association, Newark, asbestos removal and contamination

Residents of Annandale, concerned about proposed landfill, Hunterdon County
Residents of Bloomingdale concerned about proposed landfill, Passaic County
Resident of Barnegat, fighting for closure of landfill and concerned about solid waste disposal, Ocean County
Homeowners in Branchville, Sussex County,, finding a permanent clean water supply
Residents of Cape May County, Tuckahoe, spreading of sewage sludge contaminated the river
Residents of Carteret/Port Reading -- anti-garbage incinerator fight in Carteret; Hess Oil
Residents of Harmony Township, the SOLE Alliance, Warren County, odors from a sludge composting facility
Residents of Hillsdale, Bergen County, SalCar, Northeastern Recycling
Residents of Howell Township concerned about Southard Landfill
Residents of Manalapan, Monmouth County, concerned about wood-burning incinerator
Residents of Mansfield Township, Burlington County, opposing expansion of the Tullytown Landfill
Residents of Knowlton, Warren County, sludge processing facility
Residents of Maplewood, Essex County, NJ Transit Bus Company
Residents of Mine Hill, Morris County, sludge facility
Residents of Neptune, Ocean County, underground contamination from Exxon gas station
Residents of Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, concerned about building school on land contaminated with PCB's
Residents of Pompton Lakes concerned about pollution from DuPont
Residents of Puerto Rico
Residents of Ringwood, Passaic County, electromagnetic fields, power plant
Residents of Roosevelt, Monmouth County, low-level radioactive waste facility
Residents of Stanhope, sludge facility
Residents of Sussex County including Vernon and Lafayette, opposed to construction of garbage incinerator at former site of Hamm's Landfill.
Resident of West Amwell, site of a pumping station owned by Texas Eastern. The PCB contamination at the site is 100 times the acceptable level.
Residents of Westville, Gloucester County, garbage incineration
Residents from Vernon Township, Sussex County concerned about radioactive wastes being spread on Appalachian Trail
Residents living near the Busby Landfill in Voorhees concerned about clean up
Residents of West Milford, fuel oil spill and fumes

Acknowledgments

The Grass Roots Environmental Organization, Inc. (GREO) would like to thank the following people for their support of our work from our inception 15 years ago, through obtaining our first grant in 1985, and for the past decade:

Funders:	Beldon Fund	Judy Donald/Diane Ives
	CCHW Mini-Grant Program	Barbara Sullivan
	Environmental Support Center	Midge Taylor/Deborah Brouse/Jim Abernathy
	The Fund for New Jersey	Robert Corman
	Human-i-tees	
	W. Alton Jones Foundation	
	Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry	Rev. David S. Burgess
	Needmor Fund	Debra Callahan
	N.J. Community Foundation	Betty Wood
	N.J. Environmental Endowment	
	Norcross Wildlife Foundation	
	Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation	Vic De Luca
	Marianist Sharing Fund	Dick Ullrich
	Charles S. Mott Foundation	Jon Blyth
	Public Welfare Foundation	Larry Kressley

Board Members Past and Present* (along with issues of concern):

Susan Andrews	Rollins hazardous waste incinerator, Superfund Cleanup at Bridgeport Rental, Logan Township
Anna Maria Caldara	Warren County garbage incinerator
Bob Cartwright*	At Sea Incineration, SCA hazardous waste incinerator, Newark
Bea Cerkez	Kinsley Landfill, Deptford
Beth Crane*	Crown Vista coal-burning power plant, Paulsboro
Susan Dutton	Waste Disposal Inc. Landfill, Howell
Joanne Eash*	Union County garbage incinerator, Rahway
Ted Flynn*	At Sea Incineration, Westfield
Dr. James Hilbert	Morris County Landfill/incinerator, Rockaway
Doreen Khebzou*	Atlantic County incinerator, Absecon
Matt Krautheim*	At Sea Incineration, Montclair
Anita Linden	High Point Landfill, Washington
Harry Lindsay	Lipari Landfill, Pitman
Mark Lohbauer*	Camden County incinerator, Pennsauken, mercury standard
Ruth Ann Messick	Kramer Landfill, land entombment facility for hazardous wastes, East Greenwich
Owen Murphy	Cape May County garbage incinerator, Stone Harbor
Vivian Opresso	Edgeboro Landfill, Middlesex County garbage incinerator, Sayreville
Dave Salley*	DuPont hazardous waste incinerator, Carney's Point

Bob Schwarz
Bob Spiegel*

Cheryl Vogel
Tush Zorovich-Hmelar

Mercer County garbage incinerator
Chemical Insecticide Corporation, Kin-Buc
Landfill, Dismal Swamp, Edison
Camden County incinerator, Camden
Asbestos, illegal dumping, North Bergen

Staff Members:

Susan Andrews
Kerri Blanchard
Anna Maria Caldara
Madelyn Hoffman
Dana Natale

South Jersey office
Field Organizer
Administrative Assistant
Director
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Special Mention (for efforts in support of GREO and citizens' groups):

Bob Cartwright
Arnold Cohen
Tom Germine, Esq.
Michael Gordon, Esq.
Tim Haley, Esq.
Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Hoffman
Paul Hughes, Accountants for the Public Interest
Dr. Marc Lavietes
Dirk Ottens
Michael Schwartz
Betty Wood

In Memoriam:

GREO remembers the following activists who passed away in the past year. We mourn their passing and thank them for their persistence, dedication and commitment to protecting public health..

Dr. Walter Burnstein, April 1996: physician and long-term activist against uranium mining, irradiated foods, garbage incineration

Norma DiNocento, 1995: member of Concerned Citizens of Union County, opposed to Rahway garbage incinerator

Frank Livelli, September 1995: long-term activist and retired engineer against Ciba-Geigy's use of a pipeline to dump toxic chemicals into the ocean

Maura Newsom, 1996: fighter against PCI, a company proposing to burn wastes at sea, from a factory in Perth Amboy

Nico, June 1996: relentless activist concerned about heavy metal contamination of Cooper's/McGraw Edison battery making plant